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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 DRC-01 RSC-01 /046 W
---------- 002916
O R 261628Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO USDA/FAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0115

UNCLAS LISBON 3181

FOR HORBALY AA/AA

FROM AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE LISBON

REF: TOFAS 64; STATE 160523

SUBJECT: FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS CENTRAL SOYA STRIKE

TOFAS 65. 1. SUMMARY: STRIKE CONTINUING.
MANAGEMENT CONTINUING EFFORTS TO REOPEN
NEGOTIATIONS INCLUDING MEETING WITH THE MINISTRY
OF LABOR BOTH MORNING AND AFTERNOON OF JULY 26.
AS MEETINGS STILL IN PROGRESS RESULTS, IF ANY,
NOT KNOWN. WHEN AVAILABLE THIS INFORMATION WILL
BE FORWARDED. FOLLOWING ARE DEVELOPMENTS OF PAST
FEW DAYS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 24 WORKERS TOLD MANAGEMENT IF FULL
MONTH JULY WAGES PAID WORKERS WILLING RENEW
NEGOTIATIONS. WORKERS PERMITTED MANAGEMENT TO ENTER AND LEAVE
PLANT AND SAID MANAGEMENT WAS FREE TO COME AND GO AT
WILL WHILE WORKERS PRESENT AND THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE NO
FEAR OF VIOLENCE. MANAGEMENT, HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO USE
TEMPORARY OFFICE ESTABLISHED LAST WEEK IN HOTEL
SHERATON. STEPS WERE TAKEN FOR POST OFFICE TO
DELIVER MAIL TO TEMPORARY OFFICE. WORKERS PROMISED
TO DELIVER MAIL THAT HAD ARRIVED AT PLANT.

3. ON JULY 25 MANAGEMENT MET, AT THEIR REQUEST,
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WITH LOCAL MINISTRY OF LABOR REPRESENTATIVE TO

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ATTEMPT TO REESTABLISH DIALOGUE WITH WORKERS. ALSO
MET WITH LAWYERS TO DRAFT NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO
WORKERS DEMAND FOR PAYMENT FULL JULY WAGE.
MANAGEMENT'S ATTEMPT TO DISTRIBUTE, AT THE PLANT,
THEIR RESPONSE TO WORKERS 50 POINT DEMAND
WAS REBUFFED BY THE WORKERS. APPARENTLY THE
WORKERS MOOD CHANGED AS PHYSICAL THREATS AGAINST
COME MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL AND FAMILY WERE
RECEIVED BY MANAGEMENT. MANAGEMENT DID NOT
RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM JULY 22 MEETING WITH JUNTA MEMBER.

4. ON JULY 26, MANAGEMENT MET IN LATE MORNING
WITH MINISTRY OF LABOR OFFICIALS TO PRESENT CASE WITH
MEETING CONTINUING INTO LATE AFTERNOON. RESULTS
OF DISCUSSIONS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME.

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